

ABSTRACT

In a solid phase extraction (SPE) device, once all the columns of the SPE plate are filled with liquid, the needles cooperate with engagement formations on a pusher element for pushing down the plate together with an upwardly biased shoe into sealing engagement with a peripheral spacer surrounding a container. Simultaneously, vacuum is applied by appropriate control of a valve and all the columns simultaneously transfer liquid into the drain container. Then, vacuum is released, needles engage recesses to move a carriage above a collect container and a similar prosecution is resumed.